

Village of Los Lunas



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Work Continues on Transportation Improvements

Village officials continue their work on transportation improvements in the village, improvements which help not only residents but also nonresidents who travel through the community.

Phase 2 of the village's Transportation Study developed traffic volume projections for the future as well as planning potential solutions to address traffic volumes.

Phase 2's study found eight intersections in the village which need improvements. The study also recommends improvements which will help relieve traffic congestion. Those intersections, in order of priority, are:

1) NM 314 and Main Street, estimated cost is \$624,746 including

land acquisition (all estimates include this).

2) Los Lentes and Main Street, \$577,652.

3) NM 47 and Main Street, \$178,631.

4) Emilio Lopez and Main Street, \$603,000.

5) NM 263 and Main Street, \$195,570.

6) Bridge over I-25, \$2.5 million.

7) Los Cerritos and Main Street, \$146,147.

8) Desert Willow and Main Street, \$553,998.

Many of the improvements are additional lanes for traffic. The cost of the bridge over I-

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This heavy-duty machinery, a shovel and a loader, almost appear to be dueling. The loader is removing the directional sign at the intersection of Highway 6 and Interstate 25 southbound in preparation for adding a turn lane onto Interstate 25. This project includes a traffic light on Highway 6 (Main Street) and the northbound Interstate 25 exit/entrance.

Fire Department Protects 24 Hours a Day

No one wants to experience a fire or medical emergency, but it's good to know that the village fire department is ready to help under both circumstances.

Twelve full time, including Chief Atiliano "Lito" Chavez, and one part time firefighters serve the village. In addition there is a secretary and 25 volunteers. All full-time firefighters are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians.

Equipment includes:

- Three Class A Pumper trucks that pump 1,000 gallons of water per minute;

- Fast Tak Rescue which has

special equipment to get people out of places they can't escape from.

- Two medical units which are transport capable but the village does not offer transport service.

The village has two stations — the main one at 465 Main Street and a substation located on the grounds of the old Hospital and Training School. An older pumper and older medical unit are housed at the substation.

The department answers about 300 fire calls a year. Medical calls number about 1200 and range from heart attacks to stabbings/shootings to auto accidents.

The Village provides 24-hour fire and medical emergency service free of charge. The fire department offers public fire education as well as other services.

The fire department issues permits for burning weeds. Weeds can only be burned between 10 am and 4 pm and only weeds can be burned under the permit. A permit is good for two weeks.

The fire department issues about 65 permits a month. Fire permits are available at 465 Main Street Monday through Friday between 8 am and 5 pm.

Chief Chavez says work is being done on getting computers into the emergency vehicles, not only for

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Fire Prevention Week October 9-15

Change the Batteries in Your Smoke Detector

Thanks to These Folks for Helping Clean Up

The Village conducted the annual Trek for Trash Cleanup in September with 50 people showing up to help for the morning.

Lunch was provided and some volunteers won door prizes or were given Trek for Trash T-shirts.

People who helped with the clean up:

Ana Munoz, Mathew Garcia, Camille Segretto, Katherine Thomas Griego, Thomas Rodriguez; Nina Hussien, Myron Morgan, Stephen Chavez, Charlene Luedike.

Also, Krystol Gallegos, Melanie Chavez, Dene Gabaldon, Jim Peters, Alexandro Sais, Robert Her-

rera, Christian Garcia, Ashley Martinez, Jason Klotz, Leann Chavez, Spencer Moya.

Also, Carson Townsend, Allen Garley, William Ross, Harry Davis, Louisa Otero, Lorine J. Sands, Joe Serna, James Sandoval, Andres Ebarajas, Trish Renee Ortiz, Jason J. Anaya, Jennie Thurston, Amanda Griego, JoAnn Griego, Rick Griego.

Also, Gerard Saiz, Anthony Carrasco, Agustin Silva, Jeff Cooper, Adolph Lopez, Art Mondragon, Salomon Marquez, Josie Navarrette, Diana Crowson, Dena Gutierrez, Mark Lauer, Anthony Martinez, David DeAnda, Gary Uriaga and Marcus Montoya.

Area Businesses Support Cleanup

In addition to the volunteers who helped with the Trek for Trash Clean Up in September the following businesses also donated money or gift certificates to help:

ADB Realty & Investments, Inc.; Adobe Flowers and Gifts; Representative Fred Luna; Andy's Boot & Shoe Repair; Century 21, Champions Inc.; Chapman Plumbing & Heating; Comcast Cable Co.; Drafting & Design Service Co.; Exit Altura Realty.

Also First State Bank; G & A Mobile DJ Service; Han's Foreign Car, Inc.; Huning Ltd. Partnership; Loretta Baier DBA Girl Friday; Miller's Insulation; Mountain States Wrecker Services, Inc.; New Concepts; Papa John's Pizza; Quizno's.

Also Rio Grande Financial Network; Sunrise Builders; Super Suds Laundry; Tai's Chinese Restaurant; Village Inn Restaurant; Wall Colmonoy Corp; Wal-Mart Super Center; Western Skies Inn & Suites; Yvonne's Creations.

Trek for Trash coordinator Marie Marquez reminds everyone that work remains to be done on the litter

Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice a month in the council chambers in the administrative building on the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2005 are:

October 6 & 20

November 3 & 17 December 8 & 29

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are rescheduled so check with village officials at 839-3840 to be sure a meeting has not been changed.

The agenda will be available at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting from the bulletin board in the lobby of the Administration Office, located at 660 Main Street NW, Los Lunas, NM; the Los Lunas Library located at 460 Main Street in Los Lunas, NM; and posted on the village website (address: www.loslunasnm.gov).

problem in the community. Monthly cleanups will continue to help keep the litter problem under control.

For information regarding cleanups contact Marie Marquez at 839-3840 or 352-7658.

SER de NM Offers

Home Ownership Program

Service, Education and Redevelopment of New Mexico (SER de New Mexico) assists low to moderate income families in qualifying for a home purchase through home ownership classes.

Families of all income levels can take advantage of the program through pre and post purchase counseling programs. All services are free.

One of SER's goals is to build a strong community through home ownership.

SER de New Mexico, in existence since 1965 as a joint project of the GI Forum and the League of United Latin American Citizens, has opened an office in Los Lunas. The local phone number is 565-8024.

**VISIT THE
VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.loslunasnm.gov**

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning **Mayor**
Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo Charles Griego
Gerard Saiz Robert Vialpando

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo **Master Municipal Clerk**
Chief of Police Nick Balido

Village Prepares for Disasters

Hurricane Katrina's and Rita's disastrous effects on Texas and the Gulf Coast makes us wonder about disaster planning in our communities. Although it is impossible to plan for every possibility, the Village of Los Lunas has a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and a disaster plan.

In charge of planning for disaster is Zach Romero, a retired Albuquerque Fire Department firefighter who now works for the village.

Romero points out there are two types of emergencies — those caused by man and those caused by nature.

Los Lunas has first responders who can cope with what might happen in the community. These first responders have undergone training and have the necessary equipment.

Romero stays in touch with people in other New Mexico communities who are performing similar jobs

Firefighters Protect . . . Continued from page 1

directions, but with information about buildings.

Firefighters are visiting area businesses and public buildings to obtain information about building material, exits and other items that relate to fire. This information will be put into a database to help fight fires.

Good fire prevention makes everyone's life easier, points out Chavez. School children often tour the fire facility and are given a learning activities book entitled "Don't Fear Firefighters in Gear." He says teaching children begins a lifelong habit of respecting fire and fire protection.

Transportation Improvements

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25 project is high because it involves adding additional lanes to the bridge over Interstate 25.

Prioritizing the improvements is based partially on the level of service for the intersections. The level of service is based upon the number of seconds one must wait at the intersection.

The village is pursuing ways to get these traffic improvements accomplished. Total cost for all projects is \$4.5 million.

The projects will facilitate travel for everyone, resident and nonresident, in the village.

In addition, more traffic counts will be conducted and how people get around in the county will be examined.

Downtown Project Completed

The \$3 million downtown project which included improvements to sewer lines in one of the oldest areas of the village is now officially completed.

to to be sure that everyone will be able to work together should a disaster occur.

Under Romero's leadership, drills are held to test whether a disaster could be handled. A drill was held at the 80,000 acre Wal-Mart Distribution Center recently. A airplane "crashed" into the building and responders had to deal with the problems which would result from such a catastrophe.

Romero was one of the people involved in the clean up of the Hospital and Training School in preparation to possibly house evacuees from the devastation produced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Romero says that terrorists may not be interested in Los Lunas, but they could be interested in Albuquerque. But Romero feels that natural disasters could well be Los Lunas' biggest concern.

"We're prepared either way," said Romero.



Los Lunas firefighters stand in front of one of the three pumps the village uses to fight fires.

Rail Runner To Start This Fall

The New Mexico Rail Runner Express is expected to begin running this fall.

Work is expected to begin this fall on the Los Lunas station at the intersection of Juan Perea and Courthouse Roads. This intersection will be reworked with Juan Perea being realigned. The change will create more room for the railroad platform.

Los Lunas will be one of eight stops currently planned from Belen to Bernalillo. Eventually the train will go to Santa Fe, but this is not expected until 2008 as the route still needs to be finalized.

Being able to get to places within the Albuquerque area from the Albuquerque station is being worked on. These include UNM, TV-I and Cottonwood Mall.

Some of the locomotives and railcars have been delivered to New Mexico and are being stored in the railroad yards in Albuquerque.

DOT Presents Check

NM Department of Transportation District Engineer Larry Velasquez presented the village with a check for \$400,000 for the widening and reconstruction of the final portion of North Los Lentos Road at the September 22 Village Council meeting. The project should go to bid this fall.

State Facility in LL Prepared for Evacuees

Several buildings on the New Mexico State Campus were prepared in August and September as housing for people affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The New Mexico State Campus is the current name of what was once referred to as Los Lunas Hospital and Training School. The facility and the land it sits on is state property under state control. The facility and land have never been annexed into the village even though the area is surrounded by the village.

The decision to use the building for emergency facilities was made by state officials, not by anyone with the village. Village officials work with state as well as county and school officials on being sure support systems will be available for people who may use the facilities.

Election in March For Village Voters

The village will hold a municipal election on March 7, 2005. All registered voters who live in the village limits may vote for the position of mayor and judge. Registered voters in Council Districts Two and Four will also be voting for a village councilor.

You may only vote in this election if you are a registered voter in the village limits.

People often believe that if their address is Los Lunas then they are in the village limits. This is not true. For instance, a person living in Meadow Lake in the foothills of the Manzano Mountains does not live in the village limits. Neither does someone who lives in what is referred to as Tome which is east of the Rio Grande and south of Tome Hill.

Valencia County's voter registration cards have a section that says "City Council District." If there is a number, such as 2, in this box then you have a village councilor and are in the village limits if you don't live in Belen or Bosque Farms..

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

REGISTER TODAY!

**Registered Voters Living in the Village of Los Lunas
Will Vote for Mayor and Municipal Judge in March**



**Registered Voters in Districts 2
and 4 Vote for Councilors**



HAUNTED HOUSE

OCTOBER 31 5 PM

A SPOOKTACULAR EVENT

AT THE VILLAGE

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

CALL PARKS & RECREATION

352-3584 FOR INFORMATION

